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54 Packaging boxes or cartons.

57 A packaging box for eggs, fruit or other articles is of rectangular shape in plan and comprises a hollow base part (1), optionally moulded with article receiving pockets (4), and a hollow lid (2). The base part and lid are a one-piece moulding of transparent sheet plastics material. Their rims (12,16) are joined together along the rear side of the box by a web hinge so that the lid (2) may be opened and closed relatively to the base part (1). The lid is fastened in its closed position by fastening devices (20) disposed on the rims (12,16) opposite the hinge. The lid (2) comprises a generally flat top (13) and flat peripheral walls (14,15) and is supported and reinforced by a cardboard insert (25) having a top and depending flaps (27,28) juxtaposed the lid top and walls (13,14,15). The bottom edge of the rear insert flap (27) rests on the rim (12) of the base part and the bottom edge 32 of the front flap (27) rests on tabs (33) moulded in the front wall (14) of the lid in order to provide the support for the lid and hold the insert in position. The insert (25) may be printed with advertising matter or other information which can be viewed through the transparent lid (2).

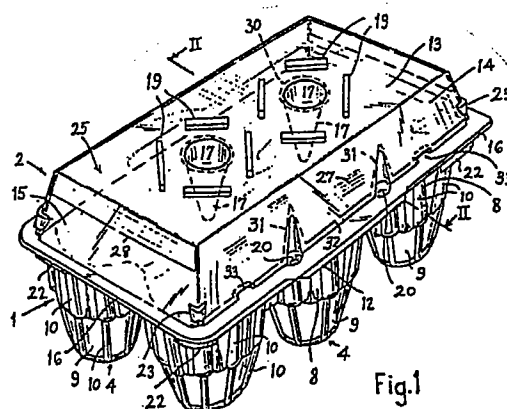


Fig.1

PACKAGING BOXES OR CARTONS

1 The present invention relates to the packaging of
eggs, fruit and other articles and, more particularly,
to packaging boxes or cartons of the type comprising
5 a hollow base part, which may be formed with a multi-
plicity of compartments or article receiving pockets
for containing individual articles, and a hollow cover
part or lid which is fastened over the open top of the
base part to close the latter. The base part may be
10 moulded from fibre pulp or plastics material whilst
the lid may be moulded from plastics material. For
example, the base part and lid may conveniently be thermo-
formed from sheet plastics material as a one or two-
piece moulding.

15 Disposable packaging boxes, for example, moulded
from thin plastics sheet material normally have intri-
cately profiled hollow lids in order to provide the
lids with sufficient strength and rigidity to prevent
them collapsing under load, with consequent damage to
the contents, such as when the boxes are stacked during
20 transit and for the purposes of retail display. One
example of this type of box is described in our patent
specification GB-B-2019815. The lids of such boxes
have unsufficient flat spaces or areas on which may
be printed or otherwise reproduced advertising matter, decorative
25 material, identification codes and other information and material
required by suppliers. Hollow lids may be produced with flat
tops and side walls for the presentation of printed
information, but to achieve the required strength and
rigidity the plastics sheet material must be of such
30 a thickness as not to be a commercially viable

1 proposition for a disposable package.

With a view to overcoming the problems of lack
of strength and printing space on boxes moulded wholly
from plastics sheet material, disposable packaging boxes
5 have been developed in which a hollow moulded base part
is closed by a separate cardboard lid. Examples of
this type of packaging box are described in patent speci-
fications GB-A-1008481, 2110649 and 2115789. When the
base part is of similar or greater height than its
10 contents, it may be closed by a cardboard lid disposed
generally flush with the rim of the base part, and
when the base part is of lesser height than its contents,
it may be closed by a preformed hollow cardboard lid, the
free edges of which may be disposed within the rim of the
15 base part and be supported on a rebate or ledges on
the insides of the rim or peripheral walls of the base
part. Such combinations are particularly attractive
constructions for packaging eggs and other similar food
items in that they provide for ready forming of the
20 intricate base part, with its article receiving pockets,
and visual inspection of the contents, whilst lending
themselves to printing the lid with the required advert-
ising matter and other information. However, known
boxes of this type present problems with regard to use
25 with automatic machinery for packing and closing the
boxes and tend to be more costly than disposable pulp
or plastics boxes because of the thicker gauge materials
required in their manufacture.

It is an object of the present invention to alle-
30 viate the disadvantages experienced with hitherto known

1 packaging boxes of the types described above and to
provide a disposable packaging box or carton having
a lid assembly with the required strength and rigidity
characteristics and in which the lid may be moulded
5 from thin plastics sheet material. Other objects are
to provide such a packaging box or carton in which the
lid assembly has significant flat spaces or areas for
the display of advertising matter and other information and material
and which is adapted for ease of packing and closing
10 by automatic machinery.

Accordingly, the present invention consists in
a packaging box or carton for eggs, fruit or other arti-
cles, in which a hollow moulded base part is closed
by a hollow lid formed from sheet plastics material
15 and fastened over the open top of the base part, charac-
terised in that the lid comprises a substantially flat or plain
top portion and at least one substantially flat or plain peri-
pheral wall portion depending from the top portion,
and in that an insert of cardboard or other sheet
20 material is disposed within the hollow lid and has a
top portion juxtaposed the top of the lid and at
least one flap or wall panel depending from an edge of
the insert top juxtaposed the flat wall portion of the
lid, the flap or wall panel of the insert engaging support
25 means moulded on the inside of the base part or lid.

The invention enables the lid to be thermo-formed
as a low-cost moulding of thin plastics sheet material
either separately or in one piece with a similarly
moulded base part. The sheet material insert supports
30 and reinforces the thin plastics lid and provides the
lid assembly with strength and rigidity. For preferred

1 results, the insert flap or wall panel, or at least
one such flap or wall panel, engages support means on
the base part. Because of the support and reinforcement
provided by the insert, the thin plastics lid can
5 be moulded with large flat spaces or areas which either
may, themselves, be printed with advertising matter
or other information required by suppliers or, when
the lid is transparent, enable such information to be printed
on the flat surfaces of the insert to be viewed through
10 the transparent plastics lid. The required information
may be printed not only on top of the lid or insert
but also on the depending flap(s) or wall portion(s)
where it may be viewed when the boxes are stacked.
The insert does not require fastening in position with
15 adhesive and is retained in the lid by engagement of
the flap(s) or wall panel(s) with the support means
on the lid wall or base part.

Advantageously, packaging boxes constructed in
accordance with the present invention can be packed
20 and closed by existing automatic packing machinery.
Hence, in the case of boxes moulded in one piece from
sheet plastics material, empty boxes are delivered to
the machinery in a stacked condition, that is, stacked
one on top of the other in an open position with their
25 base parts and lids respectively internested. The
machinery destacks or denests the boxes, conveys them
in succession to a packing or filling unit, which deposits
articles in the base parts, and thereafter conveys the
filled boxes to a closing unit which engages under the
30 top of each lid, swings the latter into inverted closed

1 position over its associated base part and at the same
time exerts a downward force on the top of the lid to
engage suitable fasteners on the lid and base part.
With the present invention, it is merely necessary to
5 fit the inserts into the lids of the boxes either manually
or automatically, preparatory to stacking the boxes
for delivery to the packing machinery or station. There-
after, the boxes may be fed through the packing machinery
in the normal manner.

10 Preferably, the hollow lid has at least two flat
peripheral wall portions depending from its top and
the insert has at least two corresponding flaps or wall
panels, at least one of the insert flaps or wall panels
engaging support means on the base and at least one
15 other of the insert flaps or wall panels engaging support
means on the lid. With this construction the insert
is both supported on the base part, when the lid is
closed, to improve the strength and rigidity of the
lid assembly, and engaged with support means on the
20 lid for retaining the insert in position both when the
latter is opened or closed.

In a preferred embodiment, the box is of rectangular
shape in plan and the lid has at least one of its pairs
of opposite peripheral walls formed as flat wall portions.
25 The insert similarly has a flat rectangular top portion
with flaps depending from the opposite edges corres-
ponding to the flat walls of the lid. In another pref-
erred embodiment, both pairs of opposite peripheral
walls of the lid are flat and the insert has flaps or
30 wall panels depending from each edge of its rectangular

1 top. In the latter embodiment, all the flaps or wall
panels of the insert may engage with support means on
the base part or, alternatively, the flaps or wall panels
at one pair of opposite edges of the insert top may
5 terminate short of the full depth of the corresponding
walls of the lid and may be unsupported.

The insert may be formed from a blank of sheet
cardboard material which is creased at the edges of
the top portion so that the marginal portions of the
10 blank may be readily folded downwards to form the integral
flaps or wall panels. Where the insert is formed with
four flaps or wall panels depending from the edges of
a rectangular top portion, the flaps may be left un-
fastened at the corners or, alternatively, they may
15 be fastened together at the corners, for example, with
adhesive, in order to preform the insert into a hollow
inner lid of the lid assembly.

Conveniently, the flap(s) or wall panel(s) of the
insert are engaged with support means on the base part
20 by simply having a lower edge which rests on inwardly
projecting supports of the base part. Such support
means may, for example, be formed by an upwardly facing
surface of a rim about the upper edge of the base part,
a rebate on the inside of this rim, or ledges or pro-
25 jections flush with the rim or formed on peripheral
walls of the base part and spaced below the rim. Simi-
larly, the flap(s) or wall panel(s) of the insert may
be engaged with support means on the inside of the lid
by simply having a lower edge resting on support means
30 on the peripheral walls of the lid. Such support means

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1 may comprise one or more inwardly moulded tabs or lugs
on the peripheral walls of the lid. The bottom edge(s)
of the insert flap(s) or wall panel(s) rest on these
5 tabs or lugs although, alternatively, the latter may
engage slots or openings in these flaps or wall panels.
In a modification, opposite end portions of the bottom
edge of a flap or wall panel, or rebates or notches
in these end portions, may engage with inwardly projecting
detents moulded at the adjacent corners of the lid.

10 The base part, which may have mutually parallel
rows of article receiving pockets, may be moulded in
one piece with the hollow lid, these two parts being
hinged together along mutually adjacent rims sub-
stantially parallel to the rows of article receiving
15 pockets so that the lid can be folded about the hinge
from an open position to a closed position in which
it is inverted over the base part and closes the upper
ends of the pockets. The base part and lid may have
their rims opposite the hinge formed with fastening
20 means, typically, press-stud type fastening devices,
for fastening the two parts together in their closed
position.

Posts may be formed between rows of article receiving
pockets of the base part and project upwardly above
25 the rim of the base part to provide additional support
for the central parts of the top of the lid assembly.
In another construction for providing central support
for the lid assembly, the flat top of the lid is moulded
with hollow posts which depend downwardly within the
30 lid and engage with the tops of posts upstanding from

1 the base part between the rows of article receiving
pockets. The posts of the lid project downwardly through
suitable openings in the flat top portion of the insert
so that this may be juxtaposed the inside of the lid
5 top, and the adjacent ends of the posts of the lid and
base part may simply rest one on the other or, alter-
natively, the end of one post may interengage with a
recess or opening in the top of the cooperating post
so as to restrain lateral movement of the lid relatively
10 to the base part.

In order that the present invention may be more
readily understood, reference will now be made to the
accompanying drawings, in which:-

15 Figure 1 is a perspective view of one embodiment
of eggbox constructed in accordance with the invention,

Figure 2 is a section taken along the line II-II
of Figure 1,

20 Figure 3 is an end view of the eggbox of Figure
1, illustrating the eggbox in its fully open position
and with a portion of the lid assembly partially broken
away to illustrate details of the latter,

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a second embodi-
ment of eggbox according to the invention, and

25 Figure 5 is an exploded perspective view of a third
embodiment of eggbox.

Referring to Figures 1, 2 and 3 of the drawings,
the eggbox is a one-piece moulding of transparent plastics sheet
material. For example, conveniently, it is fluid pressure
formed or vacuum formed from high impact polystyrene
30 sheet material. It comprises a hollow base part 1 and

1 a hollow lid 2 both of generally rectangular shape in
plan and joined together along mutually adjacent longi-
tudinal rims by an integral web portion 3 serving as
a hinge about which the lid 2 may be folded about the
5 base part 1. In a preferred form of package for eggs,
the package comprises two such boxes formed as an integral
unit and joined together at mutually adjacent ends of
the base parts and lids by small spaced plastics webs
(not shown) which provide a line of weakness along which
10 the package can be readily split into its two component
boxes each containing, for example, six eggs. The two
component boxes are mirror images of one another and
therefore only one box is illustrated and will be described
in detail.

15 The base part 1 comprises six egg receiving pockets
4 disposed in two mutually parallel rows extending longi-
tudinally of the base part, that is, parallel to the
axis of the hinge formed by the web portions 3, with
the pockets of the two rows arranged side-by-side.
20 The pockets are defined by profiled or sculptured peri-
pheral walls 5 of the base part, hollow posts 6 moulded
between the pockets 4 at the centre of each array of
four adjacent pockets, and hollow partitions 7 inter-
connecting these posts and the peripheral walls of the
25 base part. The peripheral walls 5 of the base part
and the walls of the posts 6 and partitions 7 are so
shaped that each pocket 4 is of generally circular shape
in section and is formed by upper and lower merging
conical frustra 8,9. The upper frustrum 8 has a nearly
30 vertical conical wall structure, inclined only slightly

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1 downwardly and inwardly, whilst the conical wall of
the lower frustrum 9 has a greater inclination than
the upper frustrum. Formed on the exterior of the two
frustra are axially extending ribs 10 which serve to
5 stiffen the pockets and act as cushions to protect the
eggs against side blows or shocks. The bottom of each
pocket 4 is closed by a bottom wall portion 11 which
is slightly recessed above the bottom of each pocket
and serves as a protective cushion for the bottom of
10 an egg and to stiffen the closed bottom of the pocket.
An egg E (shown in broken lines in Figure 2) disposed
in a pocket 4 tends to seat on the sides 8,9 of the
pocket and does not normally rest on the bottom 11.

A horizontal stiffening flange 12, which connects
15 with the upper ends of the pockets, is formed about
the rim of the base part. Along the side connected
to the lid 2, this flange is integral with the web portion
3 forming the hinge. The hollow posts 6 between the
rows of article receiving pockets 4 project slightly
20 proud of the rim.

The hollow lid 2 accommodates the upper ends of
the eggs seated in the pockets 4 when it is folded about
the web hinge 3 into an inverted closed position over
the base part 1, as shown in Figure 2. The lid 2 comprises
25 a generally flat or planar rectangular top portion 13
having substantially flat or planar side and end wall
portions 14,15 moulded integrally with the edges of
the flat top of the lid. These peripheral walls 14,15
are inclined slightly outwardly from the lid top 13
30 and terminate in a horizontal external stiffening flange

1 16 which extends about the rim of the lid and, along
the side connected to the base part, is integral with
the web hinge 3. Moulded integrally with the lid top
13, generally along the centre line of the lid and in
5 positions opposite the two posts 6 of the base part,
are two downwardly depending hollow posts 17. These
lid posts are of generally conical shape and, when the
lid is closed their apices engage in recesses 18 in
the upper ends of the posts 6 to resist lateral movement
10 of the lid relative to the base part. A series of four
shallow hollow ribs 19 are moulded on the outside of
the lid top about the adjacent ends of the posts 17
and serve to engage with the bottom ends of the pockets
of another similar box stacked on the lid top in order
15 to locate a stack of such boxes in aligned relation.

Moulded in the rim flange 16, opposite the hinge
3, and the adjoining front side wall 14 of the lid are
small downwardly projecting studs 20 which, when the
lid is closed, are arranged to engage in cooperating
20 slot-like cavities 21 moulded in the opposing rim flange
12 of the base part in order to fasten the two parts
together. This fastening is of the type described in
our patent specification GB-B-2019815. The slot-like
cavities 21 extend transversely to the axis of the hinge
25 3 and taper from a wider inner portion to a slightly
narrower outer portion. The relative dispositions of
the studs 20 and slot-like cavities 21 is such that
when the lid 2 is hinged into its closed position without
any transverse distortions of the parts 1,2, the studs
30 20 coincide with the narrower portions of the slot-like

1 cavities 21. In order to engage the studs in the cavities
and fasten the lid in its closed position, it is necessary
slightly transversely to distort the lid 2 towards the
inner ends of the slots, as for example occurs when
5 the lid is automatically closed by the automatic closing
unit in an egg packing line. The studs then engage
in the wider portions of the slot-like cavities and,
when the box is released by the closing unit, the inherent
resiliency of the box tends to restore the lid to its
10 undistorted position and, hence, urges the studs into
the narrow portions of the slots, whereupon the fastening
is secured.

For the purpose of storage, transportation and
feeding into automatic egg packing machinery, the boxes
15 are stacked in the fully open condition, as shown in
Figure 3, with their base parts 1 respectively nested
one within another and their lids 2 respectively nested.
In order to facilitate destacking of the nested boxes
by mechanical separating devices each box is provided
20 at the four corners of its base part and lid with stacking
ledges 22,23. When boxes are stacked, the ledges on
the two parts of one box rest on the rims 12,16 of the
parts within which they are nested in order to prevent
the parts from wedging or jamming together.

25 Disposed within the lid 2 is an insert 25 which
is folded-up from a blank of cardboard sheet material.
This insert comprises a flat or planar top portion 26
of rectangular shape corresponding to the lid top 13
and flaps 27,28 depending from the side and end edges
30 of the insert top 13. These flaps are formed by folding

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1 marginal portions of the cardboard blank downwardly
about creases 29 formed along appropriate lines on the
blank. To accommodate the posts 17, holes 30 are stamped
in the top 13 of the insert, whilst the front flap 27
5 is stamped with notches 31 to accommodate the stud
mouldings 20 in the front wall 14 of the lid. When
the insert is disposed within the lid, its flat top
26 is juxtaposed the inside of the lid top 13 and the
flaps 27,28 are juxtaposed the insides of the side and
10 end walls 14,15 of the lid. The flaps 27,28 tend to
be resiliently urged outwardly into positions closely
adjacent or in contact with the lid walls by the natural
resiliency of the creased cardboard. The straight bottom
edge 32 of the front flap 27 of the insert terminates
15 slightly short of the bottom edge of the juxtaposed
front wall 14 of the lid and rests on small tabs or
lugs 33 moulded on the inside of the front wall 14.
On the other hand, the straight bottom edge 34 of the
rear flap 27 of the insert projects slightly proud of
20 the bottom edge of the rear side wall 14 of the lid
and, when the lid is closed, rests on the upper surface
of the adjacent part of the rim flange 12 of the base
part. The end flaps 28 of the insert only extend down-
wardly for part of the depth of the juxtaposed end walls
25 15 of the lid.

Prior to folding down of the insert flaps 27,28,
the insert 25 may readily be printed with advertising
matter and other information. Thereafter, and prior
to packing of the eggbox, the insert may be assembled
30 within the lid 2, either manually or automatically

1 by machine, by positioning the insert in the lid with
the holes 30 over the posts 17 and the bottom edge 32
of the front flap behind the retaining lugs 33 and then
pressing the insert fully into the lid until the top
5 26 of the insert contacts the inside of the top 13 of
the lid. In this position, the insert is retained in
the lid by the lugs 33 and the natural resiliency of
the creased cardboard tending to urge the flaps outwardly.
Empty eggboxes having their lids fitted with these inserts
10 may be delivered to automatic machinery for packing
and closing the boxes in the stacked condition in which
the base parts 1 and lids 2 of the open boxes (Figure
3) are respectively internested. The boxes may then
be destacked, filled and closed by the machinery in
15 the normal manner. During these operations, the insert
is retained in position in the lid. Moreover, when
the lid is closed, the bottom edge 34 of the rear insert
flap 27 bears on the adjacent rim flange 12 of the base
part and this supports the top of the insert against
20 the inside of the top of the lid. Hence, when the egg-
box is closed, the insert 25 is retained closely adjacent
or in contact with the top and peripheral walls of the
lid and the information printed thereon is visible
through the transparent top and sides of the lid. Also,
25 the insert flaps and, particularly, the front and rear
flaps 27 supported on the retaining lugs 22 and resting
on the base part, respectively, serve to support and
reinforce the thin plastics sheet material of the lid
2 and prevent the lid from collapsing under load with
30 consequent risk of damage to the contents of the box.

1 The embodiment illustrated in Figure 4 is similar
to the preceding embodiment save that the end flaps
36 of the cardboard insert 25 extend for the full depth
of the end walls 15 of the lid 2 and project slightly
5 proud of the bottom edges of these end walls so that
their own straight bottom edges 37 rest on the adjacent
end parts of the rim flange 16 of the base part, when
the lid is closed, similarly to the rear side flap 27
of the insert. This enhances the support for the thin
10 plastics lid 2, in addition to providing extra space
for printed matter at opposite ends of the lid assembly.

 The embodiment illustrated in Figure 5 comprises
a moulded plastics base part 40 and a separate thin
plastics lid 41 having a preformed cardboard insert
15 42 for supporting and reinforcing the thin plastics
lid. Similarly to the previous embodiments, the separat-
ely formed base part 40 and lid 41 may be moulded from
thin transparent plastics sheet material. In the preferred form,
the package comprises two base parts 40 formed as an
20 integral unit and joined together at mutually adjacent
longitudinal edges by small spaced plastic webs 43 which
provide a line of weakness along which the base parts
can be readily split into two components each containing,
for example, twelve eggs as shown. The two components
25 base parts are identical and therefore only one base
part 40 is illustrated and will be described in detail.

 The base part 40 comprises twelve egg receiving
pockets 44 disposed in three mutually parallel rows
extending longitudinally of the base part. The pockets
30 are defined by suitably profiled peripheral walls 45, 46

1 of the base part and, internally of the base part, by
suitably shaped hollow posts 47, moulded at the centre
of each array of four adjacent pockets 44, and hollow
5 partitions 48 interconnecting the posts and the profiled
walls of the base part. The walls 45,46 of the base
part, posts 47 and partitions 48 are so shaped that
each pocket 44 is generally part egg-shaped. Moulded
on the outsides of the pockets are hollow axial extending
10 ribs 49 which serve to stiffen the pockets and act as
cushions to protect the eggs against side blows or shocks.
The closed bottom of each pocket is formed with an internal
hollow boss (not shown) which serves as a protective
cushion for the bottom of an egg and to stiffen the
closed bottom of the pocket. Two adjacent posts 47
15 at opposite ends of the base part project above the
rim of the base part in order to serve as a support
for the underside of the lid assembly, as will be herein-
after more fully described.

The rim of the base part includes a horizontal
20 outwardly projecting flange 50 which, at opposite ends
46 of the base part is connected to the upper ends of
the adjacent egg receiving pockets 44 by short end wall
portions 51. Along opposite sides upstanding shoulder
portions 52 between the pockets terminate just below the rim
25 flange 50. Projecting inwardly from each end wall
portion 51 of the base part, just below the rim flange
50 are a pair of hollow fastening tabs 53 for the lid.
Below the fastening tabs, the end wall profile of the
base part is designed to form external hollow protru-
30 berances 54 which provide stacking shoulders on the

1 outsides of the end walls 46 of the base part for engage-
ment with the tabs 53. When the base parts are stacked
in nested relation, the stacking shoulders of an upper
base part 40 rest on the tabs 53 of the lower base part
5 within which it is nested in order to prevent the parts
from wedging or jamming together and facilitate destacking
of the bases by mechanical separating devices.

 The transparent plastics lid 41 has a flat or planar
top 55 with integrally formed flat or planar peripheral
10 walls 56, 57 depending from the side and end edges of
the top and inclined outwardly with respect to the
top. The opposite end walls 57 of the lid are formed
with pairs of fastening slots 58 which are arranged
to cooperate with the fastening tabs 53 on the base
15 part.

 The cardboard insert 42 is preformed so as to be
of similar configuration to the lid 41 and comprises
a flat top 60 and side and end wall panels 61, 62 depending
from the edges of the flat top. It may be formed by
20 folding a suitably stamped sheet of cardboard, the
folded down portions of the blank being secured together
at the corners of the insert to form the wall panels
61, 62. The side wall 61 of the insert are of similar
depth to the side walls 56 of the lid whilst the end
25 walls 62 have recessed bottom edges 63 to permit satis-
factory cooperation between the fastening tabs 53 and
slots 58 of the base part and lid.

 The insert may be printed on the outside of its
top and/or wall panels with any required advertising matter
30 and other information and material whilst in its blank form

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1 and prior to folding down and fixing of the side and
end wall panels 61,62.

5 In order to close the base part 40, after it has
been filled with eggs, the insert 42 and lid 41 are
fitted onto the base part in succession or as a single
assembly. In either event, the bottom edges 64,65
of the side walls 61,56 of the insert and lid rest
on the shoulders 52 inside the rim flange 50 of the
base part and the central parts of the insert and lid
10 are supported by the upstanding posts 47. As the lid
41 is fitted into position, the end walls 57,46 of
the lid and base part are flexed so that the fastening
tabs 53 engage in the slots 58 in the lid to fasten
the lid in its closed position. When the box is to
15 be opened, it is a simple matter for a person to flex
the walls and disengage the fastening tabs and slots.

Hence, the thin plastics lid 41 is firmly supported
by the cardboard insert 42 and a series of such boxes
may be stacked one on top of the other without risk
20 of damage to the contents. Moreover, in the closed
position of the lid assembly, the top and wall panels
60,61 of the insert lie closely adjacent or in contact
with the corresponding parts 55,56 of the lid so that
the printed matter on the insert is readily visible
25 through the lid.

CLAIMS

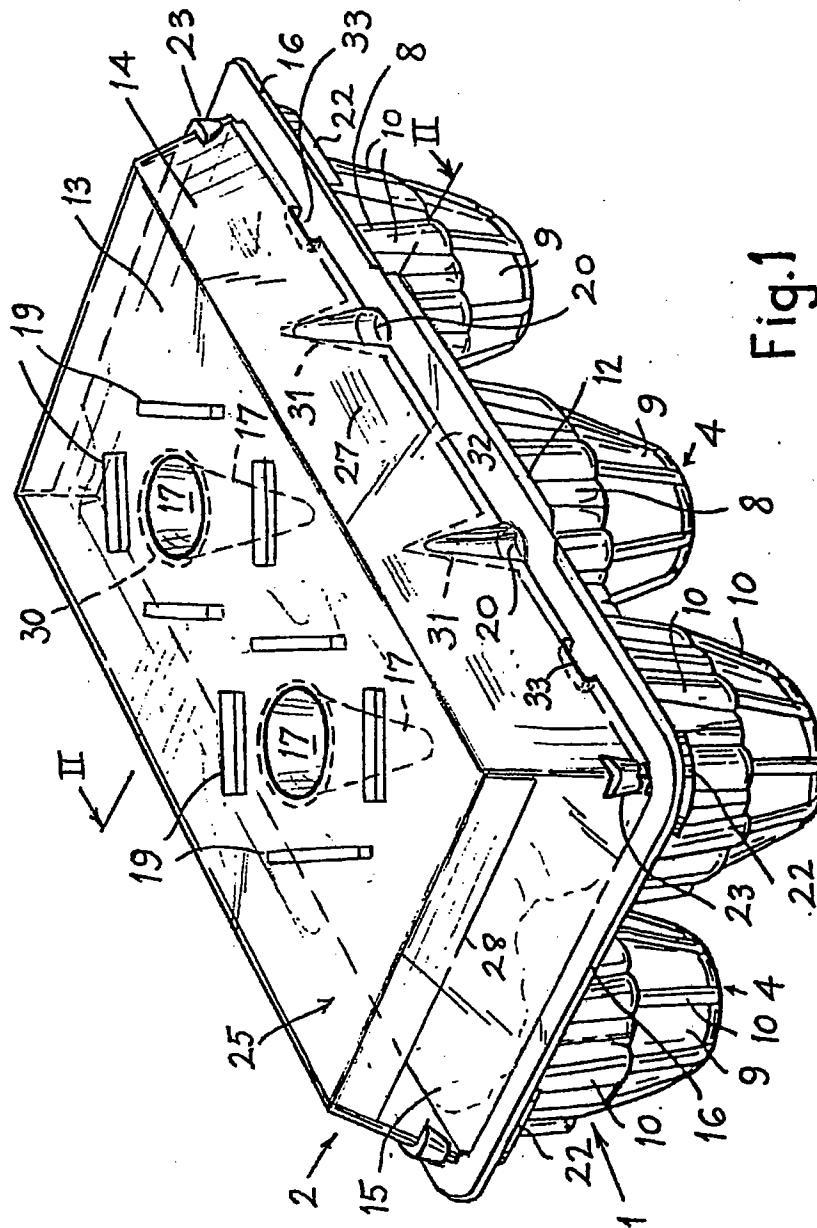
- 1 1. A packaging box or carton for eggs, fruit or other
articles, in which a hollow base part (1,40) is closed
by a hollow lid (2,41) formed from sheet plastics mater-
5 ial and fastened over the open top of the base part,
characterised in that the hollow lid (2,41) comprises
a substantially flat or plain top portion (13,55)
and at least one substantially flat or plain peripheral
wall portion (14,15,56,57) depending from the top portion,
and in that an insert (25,42) of cardboard or other
10 sheet material is disposed within the hollow lid (2,41)
and has a top portion (26,60) juxtaposed the top (13,55)
of the lid and at least one flap or wall panel (27,28,
36,61,62) depending from an edge of the insert top
(26,60) juxtaposed the peripheral wall portion (14,15,
15 56,57) of the lid, the flap or wall panel of the insert
engaging support means (12,33,52) formed on the inside
of the base part or lid.
2. A packaging box or carton according to claim 1,
characterised in that the hollow lid (2,41) has at
20 least two substantially flat or plain peripheral wall
portions (14,15,56,57) depending from its top (13,55),
and the insert (25,42) has at least two corresponding
flaps or wall panels (27,28,36), at least one (27)
of the insert flaps or wall panels engaging support
25 means (12) on the base and at least one other (27)
of the insert flaps or wall panels engaging support
means (33) on the lid.
3. A packaging box or carton according to claim 1
or 2, characterised in that the hollow lid (2,41) is
30 of rectangular shape in plan and has substantially

- 1 flat or plain peripheral wall portions (14,15,56,57)
depending from at least one pair of opposite edges
of its rectangular top (13,55), and the insert (25,42)
has a rectangular top portion (26,60) with flaps or
5 wall panels (27,28,36,61,62) depending from the opposite
edges thereof juxtaposed the flat or plain peripheral
walls of the lid.
4. A packaging box or carton according to claim 1
or 2, characterised in that the lid (2,41) is of rectan-
10 gular shape in plan and has substantially flat or plain
peripheral wall portions (14,15,56,57) depending from
both the side and end edges of its rectangular top
(13,55), and the insert (25,42) has a rectangular top
portion (26,60) and flaps or wall panels (27,28,36,
15 61,62) depending from both its side and end edges juxta-
posed the peripheral walls of the lid.
5. A packaging box or carton according to claim 3
or 4, characterised in that all the flaps or wall panels
(27,36,61) of the insert (25) engage support means
20 (12,33) on the base part and/or lid.
6. A packaging box or carton according to claim 4,
characterised in that the one pair of opposite flaps
or wall panels (28,62) of the insert (25,42) are of
less depth than the depth of the juxtaposed walls (15,
25 57) of the lid and are unsupported.
7. A packaging box or carton according to any preceding
claim, characterised in that the or each flap or wall
panel (27,36,61) of the insert (25,42) engaged with
the support means (12,33,52) has a bottom edge (32,34,64)
30 resting on the support means.

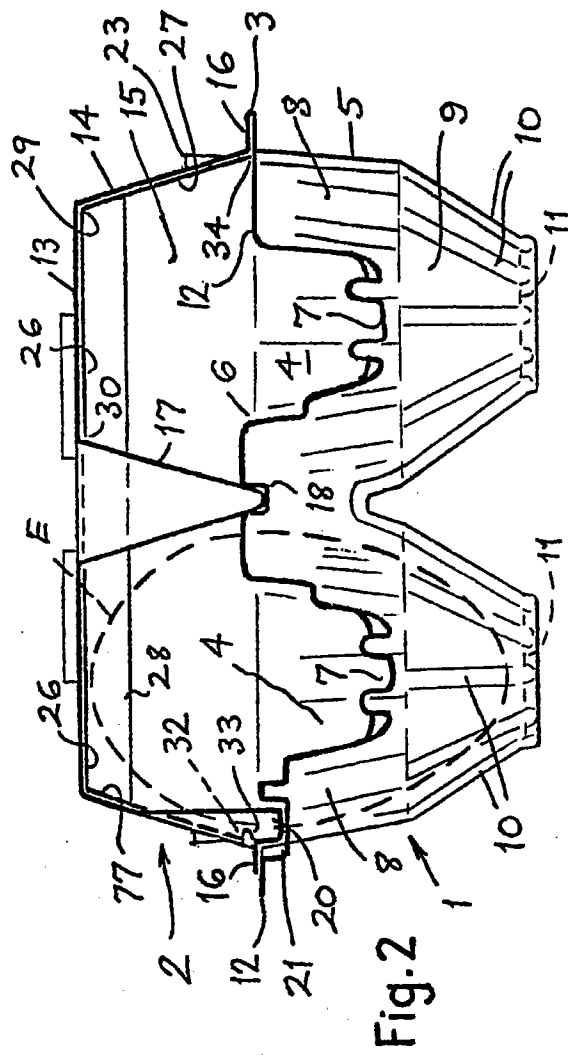
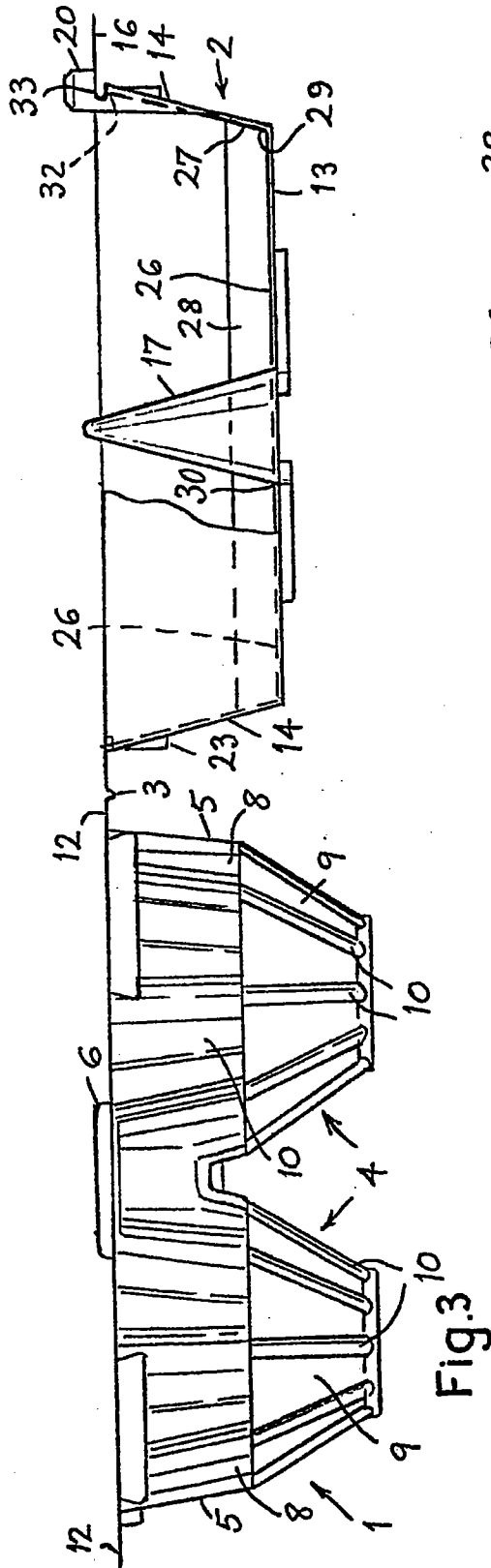
- 1 8. A packaging box or carton according to claim 7,
characterised in that the support means disposed on
the base part comprises a flange (12) about the rim
of the base part or one or more ledges, shoulders or
5 other projections (52) on the inside of the base part
disposed substantially level with a space below the
rim.
- 10 9. A packaging box or carton according to claim 7
or 8, characterised in that the support means disposed
on the lid (2) comprises one or more inwardly projecting
tabs or lugs (33) on the peripheral wall portion(s)
of the lid.
- 15 10. A packaging box or carton according to any preceding
claim, characterised in that the base part and lid
(1,2) are a one-piece moulding of sheet plastics material
and are hinged together by a moulded plastic web (3)
formed between mutually adjacent rims (12,16), the
lid being foldable about the hinge (3) from an open
position to a closed position in which it is inverted
20 over the base part and closes the open upper end thereof,
the base part and lid having fastening means (20,21)
opposite the hinge for fastening them together in their
closed position.
- 25 11. A packaging box or carton according to any preceding
claim, characterised in that the base part (40) is
formed with mutually parallel rows of article receiving
pockets (44), and upstanding posts (47) are formed
between the pockets and project upwardly above the
rim (50) of the base part for engagement with the under-
30 side of the top of the assembly of the insert (42)
and lid (41).

- 1 12. A packaging box or carton according to any preceding
claim 1 to 10, characterised in that the base part
 (1) is formed with mutually parallel rows of article
5 receiving pockets (4) and posts (6) are formed between
the article receiving pockets, and in that the top
 (13) of the lid (2) is formed with downwardly depending
posts (17) which rest upon, or engage in recesses (18)
in, the posts (17) of the base part.
- 10 13. A packaging box or carton according to any preceding
claim, characterised in that the insert (25,42) is
formed from a blank of cardboard sheet material which
is folded to provide a flat top (26,60) and depending
flaps or wall panels (27,28,36,61,62).

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2/4



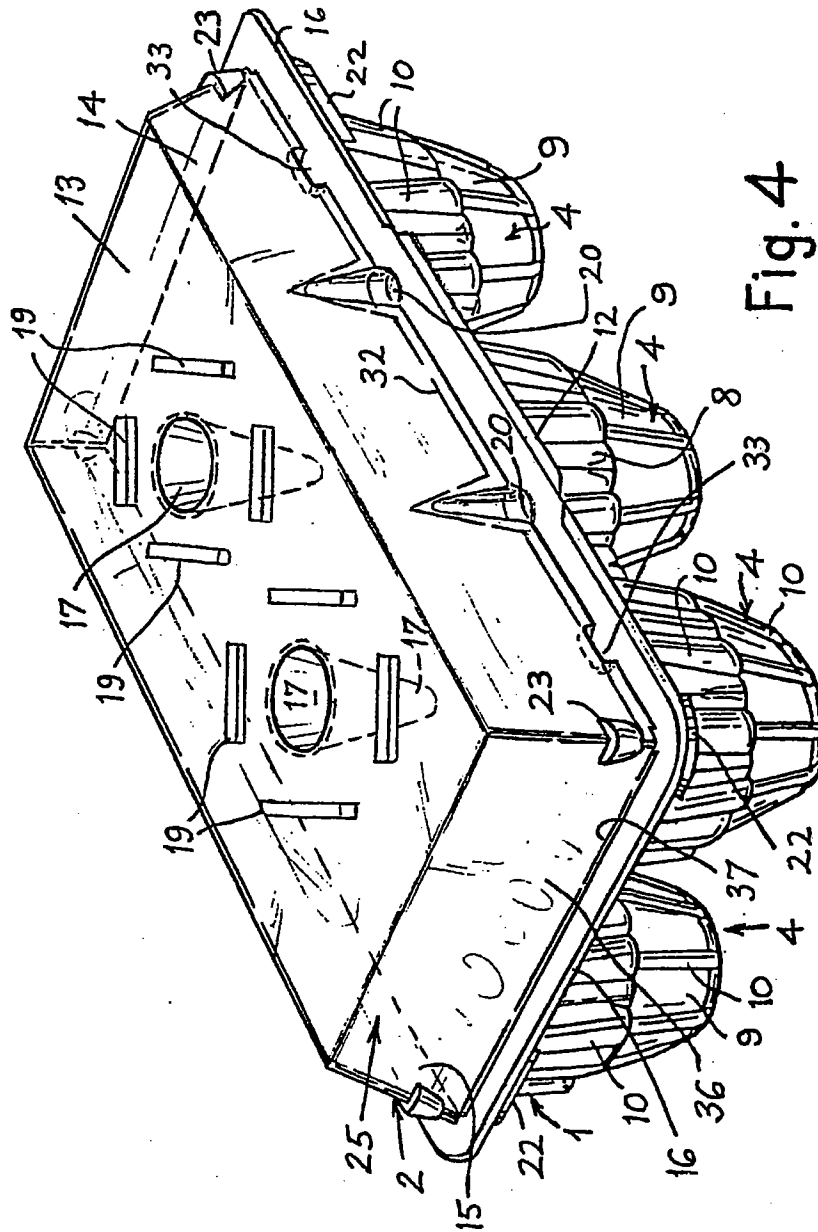


Fig. 4

Fig. 5

